

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 13 are pending. Claims 1-11 and 13 have been allowed. By this response, claims 14 and 15 are canceled. Reconsideration and allowance based on the above amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

Prior Art Rejection

The Office Action rejects claims 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sekine (U.S. 6,476,869) in view of Yokota et al. (U.S. 5,905,530). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 14 and 15 have been canceled. Thus, the rejection with regard to these claims is now moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Application in Condition for Allowance

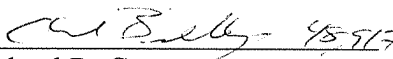
With Claim 1-11 and 13 indicated as allowed and claims 14 and 15 canceled, the application is now in condition for allowance. Prompt allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings Reg. No. 48,917 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: February 16, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By  45917
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